1   1.   An image processing method, performed by an image supply device
2   storing image data and an image output device performing image processing
3   with respect to the image data, which are connected via a communication path
4   through which the image data is communicated, the method comprising steps
5   of:

6   selecting, at one of the image supply device and the image output
7   device, one of a text command described by a markup language and a binary
8   command described by a binary, as a command including a control information
9   item for the image processing;

10   transmitting, from one of the image supply device and the image
11   output device to the other, the selected one of the text command and the
12   binary command; and

13   performing, at the other one of the image supply device and the
14   image output device, processing specified by the control information included
15   in the selected one of the text command and the binary command.

1   2.   The image processing method as set forth in claim 1, further
2   comprising a step of judging whether the control information item can be
3   described by the binary,

4   wherein the selecting step is performed so as to select the binary
5   command in a case where it is judged that the control information item can be
6   described by the binary.

1   3.   The image processing method as set forth in claim 1, further
2   comprising steps of:

3   transmitting, to the one of the image supply device and the image
4   output device from the other one, text data including a response indicating a
5   result of the step of performing the processing, in a case where the text
6   command is selected in the selecting step; and

7   transmitting, to the one of the image supply device and the image
8   output device from the other one, binary data including a response indicating a
9   result of the step of performing the processing, in a case where the binary
10   command is selected in the selecting step.

1   4.   The image processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the text
2   command is a command specified by a first protocol, and the binary command
3   is a command specified by a second protocol which is a lower hierarchical
4   protocol than the first protocol.

1   5.   The image processing method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the text
2   command is transmitted as a file by a file transmission command which is
3   specified by the second protocol.

1   6.   The image processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the
2   selecting step is performed in accordance with a kind of a command issued by
3   an application which is available in at least one of the image supply device and
4   the image output device.

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1   7.   The image processing as set forth in claim 1, wherein the selecting

2   step is performed in accordance with a kind of the application which issues a

3   command with respect to at least one of the image supply device and the

4   image output device.

1   8.   An image processing system, comprising:

2   an image supply device, operable to store image data; and

3.   an image output device, connected to the image supply device via a

4   communication path through which the image data is communicated, and

5   operable to perform image processing with respect to the image data,

6   wherein at least one of the image supply device and the image output

7   device comprises:

8   a binary transmitter, which transmits a binary command described

9   by a binary;

10   a text transmitter, which transmits a text command, which is

11   described by a markup language, as a file specified by a file transmission

12   command which is one of binary commands; and

13   a controller, operable to judge whether a command including a

14   control information item for the image processing to be performed can be

15   described by the binary; operable to control the binary transmitter to transmit

16   the command as the binary command in a case where it is judged that the

17   command can be described by the binary; and operable to control the text

18   transmitter to transmit the command as the text command in a case where it is

19   judged that the command cannot be described by the binary; and

20   wherein at least the other one of the image supply device and the

21   image output device comprises:

22   a binary receiver, which receives the transmitted binary command;

23   a text receiver, which receives the transmitted text command;

24   a binary executor, which executes processing specified by the

25   control information item included in the received binary command; and

26   a text executor, which executes processing specified by the control

27   information item included in the received text command.

1   9.   An image output device, connected to an image supply device storing

2   image data via a communication path through which the image data is

3   communicated, the image output device comprising:

4   a binary transmitter, which transmits a binary command described by

5   a binary;

6   a text transmitter, which transmits a text command, which is

7   described by a markup language, as a file specified by a file transmission

8   command which is one of binary commands; and

9   a controller, operable to judge whether a command including a control

10   information item for image processing to be performed can be described by the

11   binary; operable to control the binary transmitter to transmit the command as

12   the binary command in a case where it is judged that the command can be

13   described by the binary; and operable to control the text transmitter to transmit

14   the command as the text command in a case where it is judged that the

15   command cannot be described by the binary.

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1   10.   An image supply device, connected to an image output device

2   performing image processing via a communication path, the image supply

3   device comprising:

4   a storage, which stores image data to be transmitted through the

5   communication path and subjected to the image processing;

6   a binary receiver, which receives a binary command described by a

7   binary and transmitted from the image output device;

8   a text receiver, which receives a text command described by a

9   markup language and transmitted from the image output device;

10   a binary executor, which executes processing specified by a control

11   information item for the image processing which is included in the received

12   binary command; and

13   a text executor, which executes processing specified by a control

14   information item for the image processing which is included in the received text

15   command.

1   11.   A computer program product comprising a computer program which

2   causes a computer to serve as the binary transmitter, the text transmitter, and

3   the controller in the image output device as set forth in claim 9.

1   12.   A computer program product comprising a computer program which

2   causes a computer to serve as the binary receiver, the text receiver, the binary

3   executor, and the text executor in the image supply device as set forth in claim

4   10.